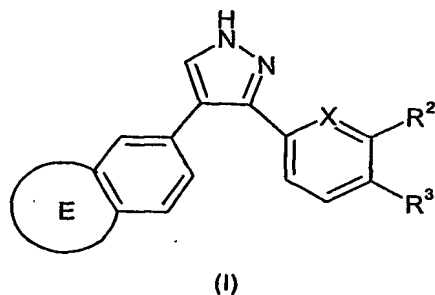


Claims

1. A compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof;



wherein

ring E is a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic 5 or 6-membered heterocycle which heterocycle in addition to carbon contains one or more ring-heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen and oxygen, wherein the heterocycle is optionally substituted on any nitrogen atom where appropriate by one or more groups  $R^{Ea}$  independently selected from  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and is optionally substituted on any carbon atom where appropriate by one or more groups  $R^{Eb}$  independently selected from oxo,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy and halo;

X is N or CH;

$R^2$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, halo, cyano or perfluoro $C_{1-6}$ alkyl; and

$R^3$  is hydrogen or halo;

provided that the compound of formula (I) is not:

1,3-diethyl-1,3-dihydro-5-[3-(3-methylphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-2H-benzimidazol-2-one;

1,3-dihydro-1,3-dimethyl-5-(3-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2H-benzimidazol-2-one;

1,3-diethyl-1,3-dihydro-5-(3-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2H-benzimidazol-2-one;

1-ethyl-1,3-dihydro-3-methyl-5-[3-(3-methylphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-2H-benzimidazol-2-one;

1,3-diethyl-5-[3-(4-fluoro-3-methylphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1,3-dihydro-2H-benzimidazol-2-one;

1,3-diethyl-5-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1,3-dihydro-2H-benzimidazol-2-one;

1,3-diethyl-1,3-dihydro-5-[3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-2H-benzimidazol-2-one;

1-ethyl-6-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1H-benzimidazole;

1-ethyl-5-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1H-benzimidazole;

5 6-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1-(1-methylethyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

5-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1-(1-methylethyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

6-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1-(2-propoxyethyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

6-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1-(1-propoxyethyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

6-[3-(4-bromophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;

10 6-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;

1-methyl-6-[3-(2-pyridinyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1H-benzimidazole;

6-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole; or

5-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole.

15 2. A compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 where the benzofused ring system including E is selected from the list: benzimidazol-6-yl, benzimidazol-5-yl, benzoxazol-6-yl, benzoxazol-5-yl, 4H-benzo[1,4]oxazin-3-one-6-yl, benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl, benzodioxan-6-yl, quinolin-6-yl and benzotriazol-6-yl.

20 3. A compound of formula (I) according to any preceding claim wherein X is N.

4. A compound of formula (I) according to any preceding claim wherein R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, chloro or fluoro.

25 5. A compound of formula (I) according to claim 4 wherein R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, methyl, chloro or fluoro.

6. A compound of formula (I) according to claim 5 wherein R<sup>2</sup> is methyl.

30 7. A compound of formula (I) according to any preceding claim where R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen.

8. A compound of formula (I) according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein, when X is N, R<sup>2</sup> is methyl.

9. A compound of formula (I) according to claim 8 wherein when X is N and R<sup>2</sup> is methyl, R<sup>3</sup> is H.
10. A compound of formula (I) according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein,  
5 when X is CH, R<sup>2</sup> is methyl.
11. A compound of formula (I) according to claim 10 wherein, when X is CH, R<sup>2</sup> is methyl, R<sup>3</sup> is H.
- 10 12. A compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from the list:
- 4-[1-ethyl-benzimidazol-6-yl]-3-[6-methylpyridin-2-yl]-1H-pyrazole;  
4-[1-(2-methoxyethyl)-benzimidazol-6-yl]-3-[6-methylpyridin-2-yl]-1H-pyrazole;  
4-[1-(methyl)-benzimidazol-6-yl]-3-[6-methylpyridin-2-yl]-1H-pyrazole;  
15 4-[2-(methyl)-benzoxazol-6-yl]-3-[pyridin-2-yl]-1H-pyrazole;  
4-[2-(methyl)-benzoxazol-6-yl]-3-[6-methylpyridin-2-yl]-1H-pyrazole;  
4-[benzoxazol-6-yl]-3-[pyridin-2-yl]-1H-pyrazole;  
4-[benzoxazol-6-yl]-3-[6-methylpyridin-2-yl]-1H-pyrazole;  
4-[benzoxazol-5-yl]-3-[6-methylpyridin-2-yl]-1H-pyrazole;  
20 4-[2-methyl-benzoxazol-5-yl]-3-[6-methylpyridin-2-yl]-1H-pyrazole;  
4-[4-methyl-4H-benzo[1,4]oxazin-3-one-6-yl]-3-(6-methylpyridin-2-yl)-1H-pyrazole;  
4-[4-ethyl-4H-benzo[1,4]oxazin-3-one-6-yl]-3-(6-methylpyridin-2-yl)-1H-pyrazole;  
25 4-[4H-benzo[1,4]oxazin-3-one-6-yl]-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-1H-pyrazole;  
4-[4-ethyl-4H-benzo[1,4]oxazin-3-one-6-yl]-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-1H-pyrazole;  
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates and derivatives thereof.
13. A compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 but without the proviso for use  
30 as a medicament.
14. The use of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 13 in the preparation  
of a medicament for treating or preventing a disease or condition mediated by  
ALK-5 inhibition.
- 35

15. A method for the treatment of a mammal with a disease or condition mediated by ALK-5 inhibition, which method comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 but without the proviso, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates and derivatives thereof.
16. A method or use according to any one of claims 13 to 15 wherein the disease or condition mediated by ALK-5 inhibition is preferably selected from the list: chronic renal disease, acute renal disease, wound healing, arthritis, osteoporosis, kidney disease, congestive heart failure, ulcers (including diabetic ulcers, chronic ulcers, gastric ulcers, and duodenal ulcers), ocular disorders, corneal wounds, diabetic nephropathy, impaired neurological function, Alzheimer's disease, atherosclerosis, peritoneal and sub-dermal adhesion, any disease wherein fibrosis is a major component, including, but not limited to lung fibrosis and liver fibrosis, for example, hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), alcohol-induced hepatitis, haemochromatosis and primary biliary cirrhosis, restenosis, retroperitoneal fibrosis, mesenteric fibrosis, endometriosis, keloids, cancel abnormal bone function, inflammatory disorders, scarring and photaging.
17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) according to any one of claims 1 to 12 together with a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or diluent.
18. A compound of formula (I) according to any one of caims 1 to 12 in combination with an ACE inhibitor or an angiotensin II receptor antagonist.